

IUCN – The World Conservation Union

Quick facts:

- The World Conservation Union is the world's largest and most important conservation network.
- It is a membership organization with a membership of more than 1,000 organizations, as well as 10,000 individual scientists and experts.
- The Union's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.
- The World Conservation Union improves scientific understanding of what natural ecosystems provide to humans.
- The priority of the Union's current programme (2005–2008) is to build recognition of the many ways in which human lives and livelihoods, especially of the poor, depend on the sustainable management of natural resources.
- The Union has helped over 75 countries to prepare and implement national conservation and biodiversity strategies.

What is IUCN - the World Conservation Union?

IUCN – the World Conservation Union brings together 82 States, 111 government agencies, more than 800 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership.

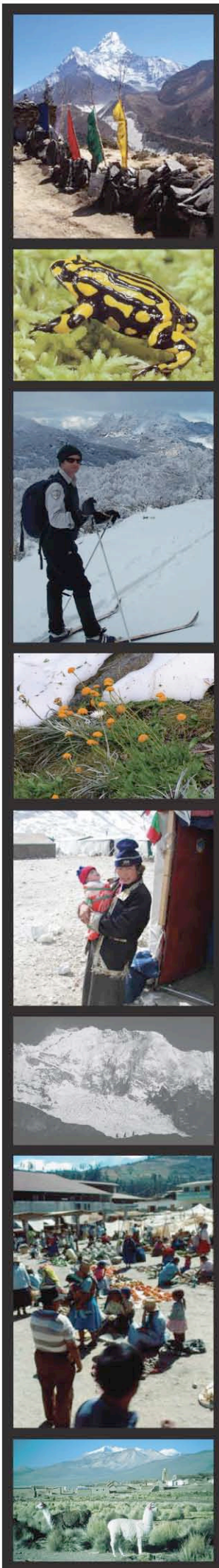
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The World Conservation Union is a multicultural, multilingual organization with 1000 staff located in 62 countries. Its headquarters are in Gland, Switzerland.

What does IUCN stand for?

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Use of the name "World Conservation Union" began in 1990, but the full name and the acronym are often used together.

The workshop is proudly supported by



What does IUCN do?

IUCN supports and develops cutting-edge conservation science; implements this research in field projects around the world; and then links both research and results to local, national, regional and global policy.

In its projects, the Union applies sound ecosystem management to conserve biodiversity and builds sustainable livelihoods for those directly dependent on natural resources. The Union is actively engaged in managing and restoring ecosystems and improving people's lives, economies and societies.

The Union's databases, assessments, guidelines and case studies are among the world's most respected and frequently cited sources of information and reference on the environment.

How is IUCN organized?

The Union has a membership of more than 1,000 organizations, as well as 10,000 individual scientists and experts structured in six Commissions. The priorities and work of the Union are set by members every four years and subsequently coordinated by a professional secretariat with 1,000 staff in 62 countries.

The six Commissions, networks of volunteer scientists and experts, are principal sources of guidance on conservation knowledge, policy and technical advice, and implement parts of the Union's work programme. The priorities and work of the Commissions are set every four years at the World Conservation Congress.

The Commissions are:

- Ecosystem Management
 - Guiding the management of natural and modified ecosystems;
- Education and Communication
 - Promoting sustainability through education and communication;
- Environmental, Economic and Social Policy
 - Advising on economic and social factors that affect natural resources;
- Environmental Law
 - Advancing environmental laws and its application;
- Protected Areas
 - Advising and promoting terrestrial and marine reserves, parks and protected areas;
- Species Survival
 - Supporting species conservation and protecting endangered species.

The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas' Mountains Biome group has organized the Papallacta Workshop on Mountain Connectivity Conservation Management.

Members of the Union elect a 32-member Council every four years at the World Conservation Congress. Along with a President, Treasurer and three representatives from each of the Union's eight regions, the Council also includes the Chairs of the six Commissions. The Council meets once or twice a year to direct Union business.

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